

#### **US Army Corps** of Engineers

Vicksburg District 4155 Clay Street Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435



# **Public Notice**

APPLICATION NO.:

PBH-990001340

**EVALUATOR:** 

Philip Hollis, P.E.

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DATE:

November 7, 2001

EXPIRATION DATE: November 28, 2001

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services are considering an application for a Department of the Army permit and State water quality certification for the work described herein. A water quality certification is required in accordance with statutory authority contained in the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, Title 30, Chapter 11, Part IV, Section 2074 A(3) and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L. 95-217). Comments should be forwarded to the Vicksburg District, ATTN: CEMVK-OD-F, at the above address and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services, Permits Division, Post Office Box 82135, Baton Rouge, LA 70884-2135, and must reach these offices by the cited expiration date. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality has additional information on file in their office in Baton Rouge and may be inspected at any time between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Copies may be obtained from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality upon payment of cost of printing. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality will make a final decision on the water quality certification pertaining to this application within 30 days after expiration of this notice.

Law Requiring a Permit: Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), which applies to structures or work in navigable waters of the United States and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), which applies to discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

#### Name of Applicant:

Ms. Deborah Hogan Secret Cove. LLC 231 Garden Road River Ridge, Louisiana 70123 <u>Location of Work</u>: Sections 26, 35 and 47, T5S-R13E, latitude 30 $^{\circ}$  34' 40" longitude 89 $^{\circ}$  51' 45", within the Pearl River drainage basin, St. Tammany Parish, near Pearl River, Louisiana.

<u>Description of Work</u>: (See enclosed map and drawings.)

The following descriptions of the proposed project and associated impacts are based upon information provided by the applicant.

The applicant is applying for a Department of the Army permit to dredge and fill 1.43 acres of wetlands and other waters of the United States. The work is associated with property improvements including construction of two access roads (gravel), two boat ramps, and dredging.

Item 1 of work consists of construction of a 15-foot-wide concrete boat launching ramp for access from the northern end of the site (0.01 acres of wetlands).

Item 2 of work consists of pushing down a spoil levee surrounding the inlet and spreading the material over adjacent uplands.

Item 3 of work consists of pushing down a sand hill at the edge of the canal and spreading the material over adjacent uplands.

Item 4 of work consists of dredging the inlet to a depth of 8 feet. The dredged material would be spread over adjacent uplands.

Item 5 of work consists of construction of a 15-foot-wide concrete boat launching ramp for access from the southern end of the site.

Item 6 of work consists of construction of a gravel access road, 1,200 feet in length by 40 feet in width (1.1 acres of wetlands).

Item 7 of work consists of 4 minor road crossings (0.03 acres of wetlands) and fill of a portion of slough (0.29 acres of wetlands).

The proposed work and placement of dredged and/or fill material in navigable waters of the United States associated with the mechanized land clearing and road construction requires a Department of the Army Permit.

Upon reviewing this notice, you should write to this office to provide your opinion of the impacts this work will have on the natural and human environment and address any mitigation you believe is necessary to offset these impacts. Other comments are welcome, but the above information will further our review of the applicant's plan as proposed. Comments of a general nature are not as helpful as those specific to the impacts of the subject project.

<u>State Water Quality Permit</u>: The State Pollution Control Agency must certify that the described work will comply with the State's water quality standards and effluent limitations before a Corps permit is issued.

<u>Cultural Resources</u>: An initial review indicates that the proposed project would not affect any of the sites in St. Tammany County listed in the <u>National Register of Historic Places</u>. Copies of this notice have been sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer, Federally Recognized Tribes, the Corps archaeologists, and other interested parties for comment on potential effects to cultural resources that could result from this activity.

<u>Endangered Species</u>: Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not affect any endangered species or their critical habitat. This proposal is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and any comments regarding endangered species or their critical habitat will be addressed in our evaluation of the described work.

Flood Plain: In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Flood Plain Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a flood plain development permit is required. Flood plain administrators should review the proposed development described in this public notice and apprise this office of any flood plain development permit requirements.

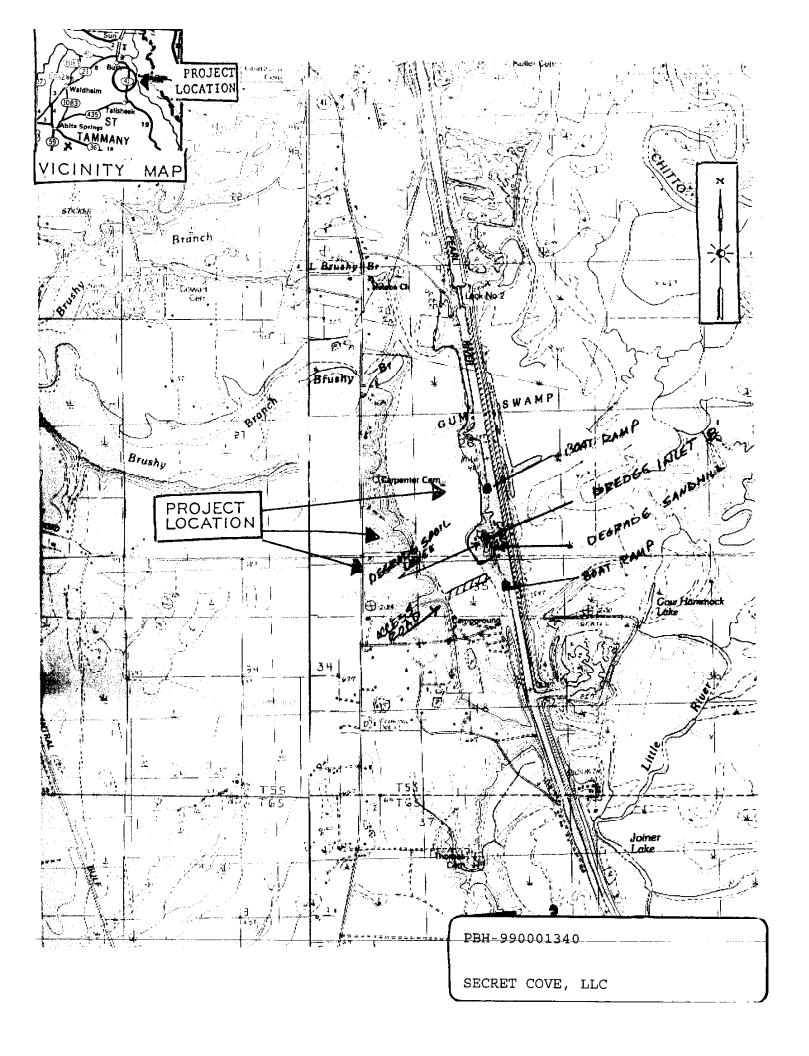
Evaluation Factors: The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its expected adverse effects. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use classification, navigation, recreation, water supply, water quality, energy needs, safety, food requirements and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the proposed activity will include application of the guidelines published by the Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

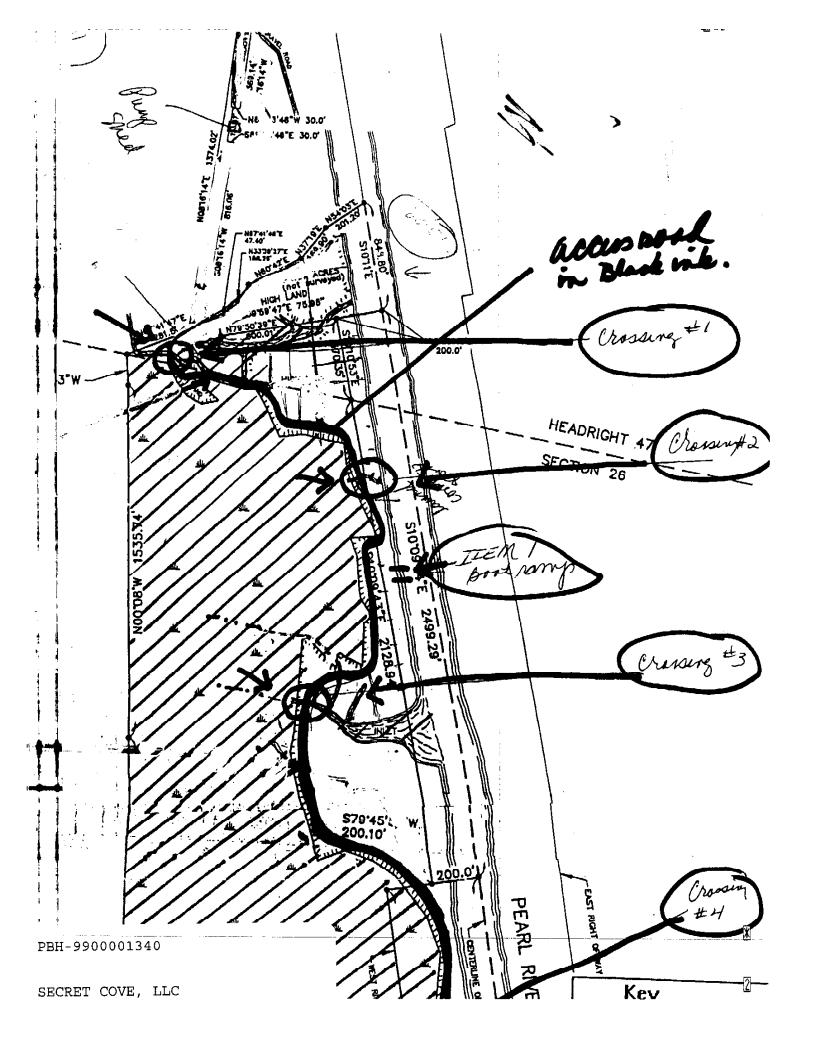
<u>Public Involvement</u>: The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties. These comments will be used to evaluate the impacts of this project. All comments will be considered and used to help determine whether to issue the permit, deny the permit, or issue the permit with conditions, and to help us determine the amount and type of mitigation necessary. This information will be used in our Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing.

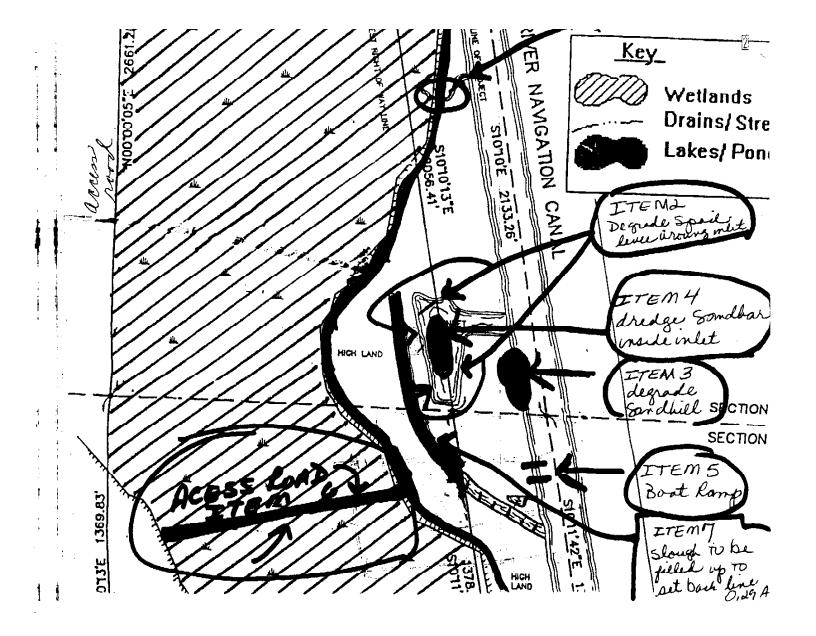
Opportunity for a <u>Public Hearing</u>: Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a

hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on this notice will be interpreted to mean that there is no objection to the proposed work. Please bring this announcement to the attention of anyone you know who might be interested in this matter.

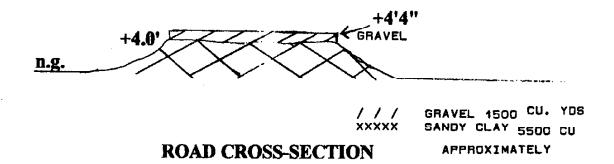
W./Harold Lee Team Leader Evaluation Section



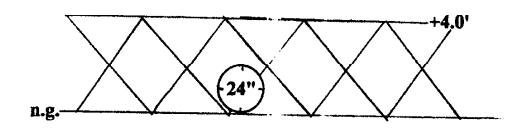




### PROPOSED ROAD CROSS-SECTIONS



### **CULVERT CROSS-SECTION**

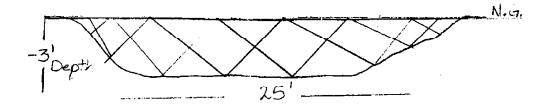


24" culverts every 200'

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SECRET COVE, LLC

## **SLOUGH CROSS-SECTION**



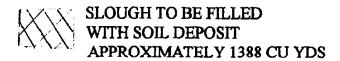
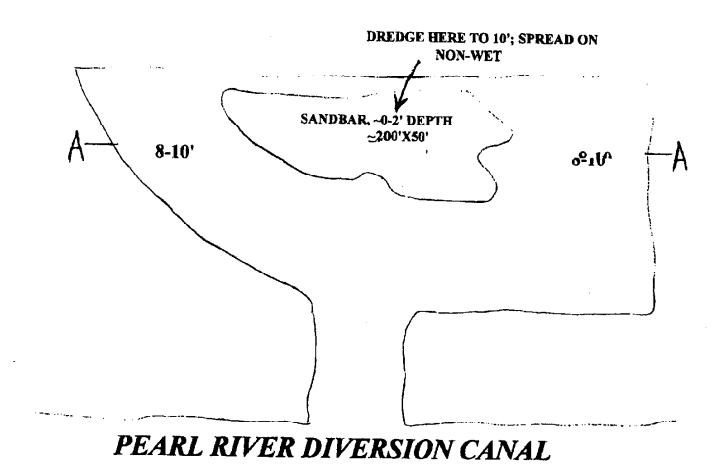


FIGURE 4: ~200 ACRES SECTIONS 26, 35 & 47, T5S-R13E ST. TAMMANY PARISH, LA SECRET COVE, LLC

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## SITE PLAN



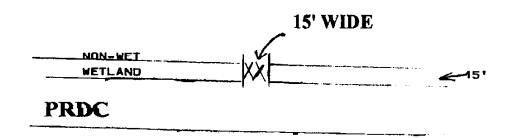
# **CROSS-SECTION AA**



EXCAVATION ~3000 CUBIC YARDS TO BE SPREAD IN NON-WETLAND.

## **TYPICAL BOAT RAMP**





PBH-990001342